

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DUBLIN 01193 041801Z

63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

OMB-01 DRC-01 /096 W

----- 002192

R 041655Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4978

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 1193

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, PBOR, EI

SUBJECT: GOI INSISTING ON COUNCIL OF IRELAND BEFORE NI EXECUTIVE
FORMED

1. SOURCE CLOSE TO FONMIN TELLS US THAT GOI IS MORE DETERMINED
THAN EVER TO REACH AGREEMENT ON AN EFFECTIVE COUNCIL OF IRELAND
BEFORE NI EXECUTIVE IS FORMED. SOURCE SAYS THAT SDLP IS EVEN
MORE FIRM THAN GOI.

2. WE RAISED QUESTION AFTER VISIT TO NI LAST WEEK BY PM HEATH,
WHO STATED CLEARLY THAT FORMATION OF FUNCTIONING NI ASSEMBLY AND
EXECUTIVE SHOULD BE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS. OUR SOURCE SEEMED
DISTURBED BY THIS, AND HE SAID THAT CABINET IS INCLINED TO VIEW
HEATH'S STAND AS A RETREAT FROM ASSURANCES GIVEN GOI AT AN EARL-
IER STAGE. SOME OF THESE ASSURANCES WERE APPARENTLY GIVEN OFF-
THE-RECORD IN LONDON/DUBLIN EXCHANGES, BUT SOURCE BELIEVES THAT
PARA 112 OF WHITE PAPER CONTAINS ONE OF THEM. LANGUAGE IN THIS
PARA SAYS THAT CONFERENCE TO CONSIDER COUNCIL OF IRELAND (TRIP-
ARTITE CONFERENCE) WILL INCLUDE LONDON, DUBLIN, AND "ELECTED REP-
RESENTATIVES OF NORTHERN IRELAND OPINION." THIS WAS CAREFULLY
NEGOTIATED WITH BRITISH. LANGUAGE MEANS THAT NI REPRESENTATIVES
TO CONFERENCE WILL INCLUDE ALL PARTIES ELECTED TO ASSEMBLY, NOT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DUBLIN 01193 041801Z

JUST THOSE WHO FORM EXECUTIVE. ULTRA-LOYALISTS WILL PRESUMABLY

NOT FORM PART OF EXECUTIVE, YET DUBLIN BELIEVES THEY CANNOT BE EXCLUDED FROM TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE. FURTHER, SOURCE SAYS THAT SDLP CANNOT AGREE TO PARTICIPATE LOYALLY IN NEW NI INSTITUTIONS UNTIL THOSE INSTITUTIONS INCLUDE SPECIFIC RECONGNITION OF "IRISH DIMENSION" -- MEANING A COUNCIL OF IRELAND. SDLP WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FACE ITS CONSTITUENTS OTHERWISE.

3. WE ASKED IF GOI WOULD BE PREPARED ON SHORT NOTICE TO PARTICIPATE IN A PRIPARTITE CONFERENCE ON DETAILED FRAMEWORK FOR NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. (WE HAD IN MIND AN EARLIER REPORT THAT GOI HAD BEEN UNABLE TO COMPLETE ITS HOMEWORK, THOUGH WE DID NOT MENTION THIS.) IN REPLY, SOURCE PRODUCED A THICK POSITION PAPER WHICH, HE SAID, HAD FULL CABINET APPROVAL. IT CONTAINED DETAILED LISTING OF POWERS WHICH GOI WILL PROPOSE TRANSFER FROM EACH OF ITS MINISTRIES TO A COUNCIL OF IRELAND. SOURCE SAID THAT GOVT HAD DONE VERY LITTLE ELSE IN EARLY SUMMER. PAPER IS BEING TIGHTLY HELD FOR NOW, BUT IT WILL BE TABLED INTACT AT TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE, NOT ADVANCED BIT BY BIT. GOI WANTS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT HAS THOUGHT ITS POSITION THROUGH CAREFULLY AND CONSISTENTLY.

4. WE EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE THAT NEWS OF THIS LONDON/DUBLIN PROBLEM HAD NEVER REACHED PRESS. SOURCE ASSURED US THAT DUBLIN VIEWS PROBLEM AS MOST SERIOUS, A POTENTIAL CRISIS.

5. WE ASKED IF DUBLIN ATTITUDES HAD BEEN AFFECTED BY LITTLEJOHN AFFAIR. SOURCE SAID THAT GOI WAS KEEPING THIS IN PROPORTION, BUT EVEN SOFT-LINE MINISTERS HAD BEEN UPSET AND EMBITTERED BY EVIDENCE OF UNACCEPTABLE BRITISH INVOLVEMENT IN IRISH DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO RECENT, UNPUBLICIZED CASES IN WHICH BRITISH OPERATIVES FROM NORTH HAVE BEEN CAUGHT IN REPUBLIC. ONE WAS A "SNATCH SQUAD" SENT ACROSS BORDER TO SEIZE SUSPECTS. IN ADDITION, LITTLEJOHN BROTHERS HAVE ADMITTED TO FIREBOMBINGS. WITH THIS BACKGROUND, IT EVEN SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT BRITISH AGENTS WERE INVOLVED IN DUBLIN BOMBINGS. THIS STARTLED US, COMING AS IT DID FROM A SOURCE WHO HAS ALWAYS BEEN CALM, OBJECTIVE, AND RELIABLE.

6. COMMENT: WE MUST CONCLUDE THAT STRAINS BETWEEN DUBLIN AND LONDON ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN PUBLIC OR PRESS REALIZES. DISPUTE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DUBLIN 01193 041801Z

OVER NI EXECUTIVE VS. COUNCIL OF IRELAND IS SUBSTANTIVE. IT IS CAPABLE OF CAUSING REAL DISRUPTION TO GROWTH OF PEACEFUL NI INSTITUTIONS.
MOORE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEETINGS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DUBLIN01193
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS MOORE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730957/aaaabprs.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jul-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOI INSISTING ON COUNCIL OF IRELAND BEFORE NI EXECUTIVE FORMED
TAGS: PINT, PBOR, EI, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005